

Advanced AAUS Skills

MSL 395

Summer 2018 dates June 1-5

1 credits

Fees: \$450 This covers: gear rental, tanks, boat and lab fees, lodging and food

*This does not cover: transportation to the lab, including water taxi

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Scientific Diving Web Site: <http://www.sfos.uaf.edu/dive/>

Locations:

Classes will be held at the Kasitsna Bay Laboratory (by Homer Alaska)

Course Goals:

This course will further train students in various techniques that researchers use in subtidal research. It will allow students to work on their 60 ft AAUS (American Academy of Underwater Sciences) certification. Completion of this course will allow students to complete dives so that they may remain active in the UA dive program. This will allow students to dive on UA sanctioned diving projects and have reciprocity to dive with other universities and government agencies.

Student Learning Objectives:

This course will 1) advance student skills in using scuba as a research tool, 2) assist students to become more proficient in cold water diving techniques, 3) assist students in acquiring a 60 ft AAUS depth certification, and 4) assist current AAUS students to remain active in the UA dive program.

Course Description:

MSL 395, Advanced AAUS Skills, 1 credit. This course will allow students to advance their American Academy of underwater Sciences and general scientific diving skills. We will work on acquiring a 60 ft AAUS depth rating, and getting more experience with small boats and scientific equipment and techniques. An on-line boating course (no fee for this) is required before the start of the class so that students can drive boats. Skills that we will work on include: lift bags, navigation, search and recovery, buoyancy, etc...

Instructional methods: This is a lab based class. Each day will start with an instructional lecture and will follow with morning and afternoon scuba dives. Three dives will be expected to be completed each day.

Prerequisites: This course is open to both undergraduates and graduates and can be retaken for credit.

-An Open Water SCUBA certification is required.

-Current AAUS standing

Grading: Pass/Fail. A pass will result after all open ocean water dives are completed (minimum 12 dives unless there is an illness).

NOTE:

-No incompletes will be given for this course since it involves a field trip.

Course supplies: All students must be familiar with the Scientific Diving Manual:

<http://www.sfos.uaf.edu/dive/manual/contents.html>

Organism keys and field guides will be provided while at the Kasitsna Bay Laboratory. It is recommended that students purchase their own mask and snorkel. Other gear will be supplied as part of this course through Test the Waters. Please contact TTW for gear check-out and if you would like to try your gear out at the pool prior to the class.

Boating: All students should take the on-line boating class prior to class and bring their completion certificate with them to the lab. A practical exam and orientation will be given at the lab.

<http://www.boatus.org/onlinecourse/Alaska.asp>

Course policies: Attendance is expected unless there is a good reason for the absence (illness or research-related travel). Students must contact the instructor prior to a planned absence.

Support and Disability Services: At UAF, the Office of Disability Services (203 WHIT; 474-5655; TTY 474-1827; fydso@uaf.edu) ensures that students with physical or learning disabilities have equal access to the campus and course materials. If you have specialized needs, please contact this office or the instructor to make arrangements.

The class is a field course. Facilities at the lab are disability accessible. However, SCUBA diving excursions are required.

Course Calendar:

DATE	TOPIC
5/27	Water taxi (student arranged)
5/28	Morning check out gear beach dive and boat driving check-outs in Kasitsna Bay Afternoon boat dives in Jakolof Bay
5/29-6/1	Morning deep dives (greater than 30 ft) followed by afternoon dives Dives will be done at the following sites, weather depending: <ul style="list-style-type: none">-Hezketh Island-Cohen Island-Barabara kelp forest-Elephant Island-60 ft rock-Outside Beach/Seldovia dock
6/2	Water taxi leaves the lab (student arranged)